

# News Release

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

Oct. 16, 2009

**Contact:**

Austin Carter

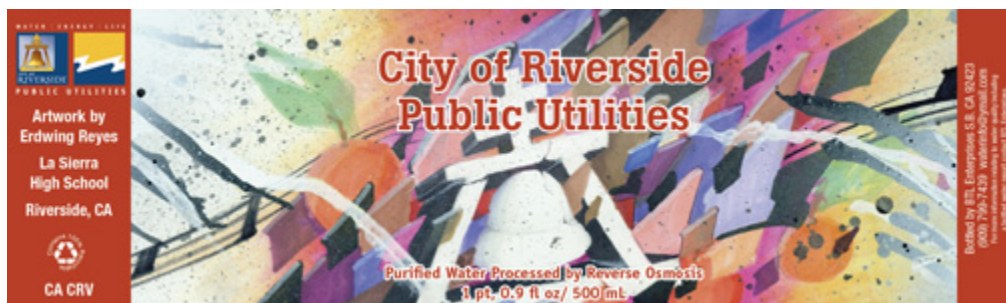
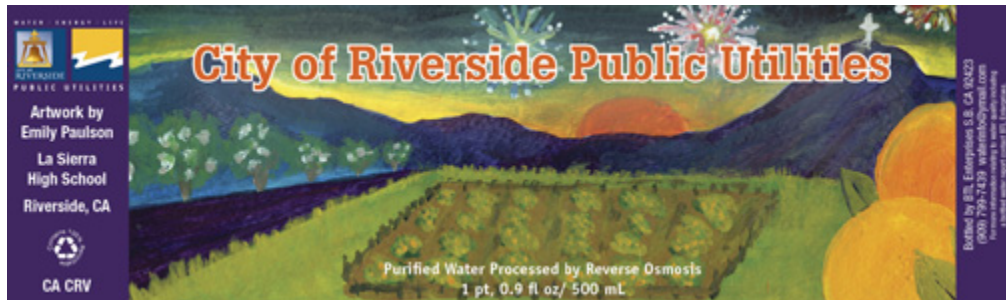
RPU Public Information Officer

(951) 826-2139

## Utilities rewards young artists in annual contest

**RIVERSIDE, Calif.** – For the 12<sup>th</sup> consecutive year, Riverside Public Utilities (RPU) has given two budding local artists a chance to be seen on 60,000 individual canvases throughout the city.

RPU awarded \$250 today to Erdwing Reyes, a junior at La Sierra High School, and Emily Paulson, a former La Sierra High School student now residing in Washington State, for their colorful designs for RPU bottled water labels.



The annual contest is aimed at high school students in the city of Riverside. More than 200 participated in this year's competition. The label designs were submitted by students before the end of school year in June and judged over the summer. There are two categories: Citrus Heritage and General Art. Reyes won the General Art category.

"I was surprised to win. But it's great because I want to go to art school," he said. His work – a mixed-media Raincross and navel orange design -- has already been displayed at a local art gallery.

The checks were awarded this morning at a Board of Public Utilities meeting by RPU General Manager David Wright.

"This is always one of our most-fun programs," he told board members. "It's fun because it's giving a chance to our young artists in the city."

The artists also win a large poster of their designs and a case of RPU water, tapped from city wells in San Bernardino and purified through reverse osmosis. There are 60,000 bottles given out by RPU every year. Twenty-three city schools receive 33,000 bottles for their fund-raisers annually.

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Established in 1895, Riverside Public Utilities is a consumer-owned water and electric utility governed by a board of nine community volunteers that provides high quality, reliable services to over 107,000 metered electric customers and 63,400 metered water customers throughout the City of Riverside. The Utility is committed to increased use of renewable energy resources and sustainable living practices that help reduce environmental impacts within the City of Riverside and the state of California.

[www.RiversidePublicUtilities.com](http://www.RiversidePublicUtilities.com)

[www.GreenRiverside.com](http://www.GreenRiverside.com)

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